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MONTHLY TRUCK TONNAGE REPORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM STATISTICAL ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT
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TONNAGE INDEX DECREASES IN NOVEMBER

General freight carrier tonnage decreased 3.1 points in November 1989 from October, 1989 according to the ATA Truck Tonnage Index. At a level of 165.2(p) with 1967 = 100, the November tonnage is 1.8% below October's 168.3(r). The current month's volume is 12.9 points (7.2 percent) below the tonnage level in November 1988.

The actual tons reported by motor carriers in the ATA survey decreased from 4.1 million tons in October to 3.7 million tons in November 1989. Actual tons decreased 10.2%. Adjustments for variations due to seasonality and the number of working (trading) days decreased the November index level to 165.2(p).

From October, 1989, to November, 1989, Industrial Production index increased 0.1% compared to the adjusted general freight tonnage index decrease of 7.2%.

These findings were announced today by the American Trucking Associations. (ATA) Statistical Analysis Department. The monthly truck tonnage index is based on a survey of the companywide operations of Class I and II motor carriers of general freight. Index coverage represents in excess of one-half of the tonnage moved by this type of for-hire motor carriers of property subject to Interstate Commerce Commission regulation.

Month-to-month data are compiled using a chain link which, in turn, has been adjusted to remove the normal seasonal influence and variations due to differing numbers of business (trading) days each month.

The current and historic index numbers are shown on the reverse side, along with several other major business indicator series. A "three-month moving average" adjusted truck tonnage index has also been compiled which aids in smoothing out short term non-significant movements in the series.

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p - preliminary r - revised f - final

INDEXES AND COMPARISONS THROUGH NOVEMBER 1989

1967 = 100

	NOV 1989	OCT 1989	SEPT 1989	NOV 1988	Monthly % Change 10/89 / 9/89	Monthly % Change 11/89 / 10/89	Yearly % Change
Tonnage Index (adjusted)[1]	165.2p	168.3r	164.3f	178.1f	+ 2.4	- 1.8	- 7.2
Tonnage Index (unadjusted)	163.2p	181.6r	173.3f	175.8f	+ 4.8	-10.1	- 7.2
Industrial Production Index[2,5] (total)	141.5	141.3	142.1	139.9	- 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Manufacturers (total)	147.8	147.5	148.7	145.9	- 0.8	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Non-durable	151.7	152.0	151.2	146.7	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 3.4
Durable	145.1	144.3	146.9	145.2	- 1.8	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Producer Price Index[3] (unadjusted)	112.7	112.7	112.3	108.3	+ 0.4	NC	+ 4.1
Consumer Price Index[4] (unadjusted)	125.9	125.6	125.0	120.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 4.7
Tonnage Reported by 75 Carriers in NOVEMBER 1989 (000 tons)	3,687	4,104	n.a.	3,820	n.a.	-10.2	- 3.5

p - preliminary r - revised f - final n.a. - not applicable

1 - Adjusted seasonally & for trading days
2 - Seasonally adjusted
3 - Finished goods (formerly Wholesale Price Index) 1982 = 100
4 - Goods and services 1982 high 1984 = 100
5 - 1977=100

* The NOVEMBER 1988 tonnage figure is taken from current reports received from carriers (NOVEMBER 1989) and bears no relationship to the tonnage indices shown above.

ADJUSTED MONTHLY TRUCK INDEX -- HISTORICAL -- 1967 = 100

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
January	144.0	140.8	138.6	154.4	175.3	177.6
February	141.8	138.2	141.4	159.3	171.9	169.2
March	144.2	139.0	139.5	160.6	175.2	166.7
April	145.5	137.9	144.4	157.5	175.5	172.2
May	144.7	138.5	143.9	159.3	179.6	172.7
June	145.1	134.8	144.0	163.0	184.7	172.5
July	143.5	132.0	152.2	161.7	172.7	158.6
August	145.2	135.0	153.4	164.0	178.6	169.0
September	140.7	134.7	154.9	167.8	178.5	164.3
October	143.4	135.8	155.1	170.2	178.3	168.3r
November	144.4	137.5	153.0	173.4	178.1	165.2p
December	143.3	135.8	154.6	174.6	178.3	

* all data are final unless otherwise noted.

Three Month Moving Average of Adjusted Truck Tonnage Index for Recent Months

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1987	156.1	158.1	159.1	159.1	159.9	161.3	162.9	164.5	167.3	170.5	172.7	174.4
1988	173.9	174.1	174.2	176.8	179.9	179.0	178.7	176.6	178.5	178.2	178.2	178.0
1989	175.0	171.2	169.4	170.5	172.5	167.9	166.7	164.0	167.2r	165.9p		

The moving average aids in smoothing out less significant monthly variations.